

1	2	3	4
Barley	5.66	5.44	0.22
Gram	61.43	56.39	5.04
Urad	3.18	3.19	-0.01
Moong	1.73	1.47	0.26
Masur	10.86	12.71	-1.85
Rapeseed & Mustard	61.36	66.10	-4.74
Groundnut	2.67	3.10	-0.43
Sunflower	8.73	10.62	-1.89
Linseed •	3.78	4.31	0.53
Safflower	3.02	3.26	-0.24

Area coverage till 1st December, 2006 under jowar, urad, masur, rapeseed & mustard, groundnut, sunflower, linseed and Safflower show decline during 2006-07 compared to the corresponding period last year.

Area under cultivation

†1803. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- . (a) whether it is a fact that the size of land holding in the country has been decreasing during the last few years;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the size of average holding, which was 2 hectare in 1976-77 has now been reduced to merely 0.2 hectare;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof;
- (d) whether this decrease in the size of holding is required to be checked; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Reports of various Agricultural Census show that the average size of land holdings in the country declined as follows: 2.28 hectare in the year 1970-71, 2.0 hectare in 1976-77, 1.84 hectare in 1980-81, 1.69 hectare in 1985-86, 1.55 hectare in 1990-91 and 1.41 hectare in the year 1995-96.

(d) to (e) Land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States as provided under the Constitution. The Ministry of Rural Development monitors land reform programmes implemented by the States/UTs including distribution of Government Wasteland to the eligible poor. Successive Five Year Plans have also been laying stress on the consolidation of fragmented land holdings for increased agricultural output.

Some of the initiatives of the Government include promotion of contract farming and cooperative farming.

MSP of Gwar, Moth, etc.

†1804. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
 DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
 SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
 SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
 SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Gwar, Moth, Dhania, Jeera, Methi and Isabgol are the important crops of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not including these crops under Minimum Support Price Scheme;
- (c) whether Government are considering to announce the support price of the said crops;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the average annual production of these crops, in Rajasthan and how do they compare with the total production in India, as well as other premier producing States?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.